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TAGS: [IZ](#) [MCAP](#) [MOPS](#) [PGOV](#) [PINS](#) [PNAT](#) [PTER](#)  
SUBJECT: MEK - FINDING A HOME AND RESTRICTING THEIR  
ACTIVITIES

Classified By: Deputy Chief of Mission Daniel Speckhard for reasons 1.4  
(b) and (d).

¶1. SUMMARY (C/REL MNF-I) On June 22, Prime Minister Maliki's political advisor, Sadik al-Rikabi, told the Deputy Chief of Mission that the Government of Iraq (GOI) is committed to finding third-country residences for the Mujahedin-e Khalq (MeK) population residing in Camp Ashraf. He said that while this mission is being carried out, the Prime Minister wants Iraqi forces to secure the camp in order to restrict MeK movement and their political and military activities. The DCM expressed his regret for the recent public conference that the MeK held at Ashraf. The DCM also conveyed that the Ambassador is working with the Coalition and Washington to find a solution to the overall MeK problem in Iraq. The DCM requested the GOI's patience, stressing that any plan developed to dissolve the MeK camp must address a number of humanitarian and security concerns. END SUMMARY.

The MeK Must Go  
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¶2. (C/REL MNF-I) Rikabi said Maliki is frustrated with the overall MeK situation and is committed to finding a home outside of Iraq for all MeK members and defectors. Rikabi said he understood that the process will take time and that Iraq will be responsible for providing the protection of the MeK before this can occur. He also emphasized that view of the GOI that the MeK should not remain in Iraq long term -- they are enemies of Iraq and Iran. The DCM said the Ambassador agrees that the MeK situation is unsustainable and is working with the Coalition and Washington to find a solution. The DCM stressed that dissolving the camp would take time because any plan developed must be consistent with international law.

The MeK Needs to Be Controlled  
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¶3. (C/REL MNF-I) According to Rikabi, Maliki is frustrated with the current security of the MeK camp and wants an immediate change in policy. At this time, he said, the MeK -- a terrorist organization -- is allowed to hold public conferences, move freely outside the camp, interfere in GOI politics, supporting GOI enemies, and causing trouble for Iran. Maliki does not want these activities to continue while the GOI is finding suitable homes for the MeK outside of Iraq. The DCM expressed his regret for the public conference held by the MeK during the previous week. He said the Ambassador was very troubled because he had been under the impression that the conference would not be allowed to take place per the GOI's request.

The PM Solution to Control the MeK is ISF to the Camp

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¶4. (C/REL MNF-I) Rikabi reported that Maliki wants Iraqi security forces to secure the camp since Iraq is the host country, and the Coalition's security policy seems too "liberal." The DCM questioned whether the GOI had the necessary forces for such a job given the current tempo of operations in Diyala, Basra, Baghdad, and elsewhere. Rikabi said Maliki believes he has the required forces to work in coordination with the Coalition. The DCM said the Embassy would continue to review options addressing the MeK problem as expeditiously as possible.

¶5. (C/REL MNF-I) Comment: In a more confidential moment, Rikabi admitted to the DCM that it would take time to solve the MeK problem. Rikabi said that the PM's immediate focus was on not allowing the MeK to use Ashraf as a base for political activities in Iraq and Iran. End Comment.

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